

Office of Public Relations/Washington, D.C. 20052/(202) 676-6460

MAILING DATE: JUNE 8, 1983

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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN BOOK AWARD WINNER GLORIA NAYLOR

TO BE WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE AT GW

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Novelist Gloria Naylor, winner of the 1983 American Book Award for Best First Novel, has accepted an invitation to be writer-in-residence at The George Washington University for the fall 1983 and spring 1984 semesters. Naylor, who won the prize for "The Women of Brewster Place: A Novel in Seven Stories" (Viking Press, 1982, hardcover; Penguin, 1983, softcover), will arrive at GW in late August.

Naylor comes to GW via the Jenny McKean Moore Fund for Writers, which together with GW, funds the lectureship. In addition to teaching a fiction workshop in the fall and a course on Black American writers in the spring, Naylor will give free creative writing workshops open to the public during both semesters.

Although she received a B.A. in English (Brooklyn College, 1981) and an M.A. in Afro-American Studies (Yale, 1983), Naylor spent seven years between college and high school as a door-to-door Jehova's Witness preacher in the Southeast. Naylor returned to a less theocratic view of the world when she began to look at herself as "a black and a woman." In accepting her American Book Award, she described her novel as "a tribute to (her mother) and other black women who, in spite of very limited personal circumstance, somehow manage to hold a fierce belief in the limitless possibilities of the human spirit."

Naylor is currently at work on another novel, "Linden Hills," and expects it to be published by Viking Press in the near future. This year, she was also nominated for the Pulitzer Prize.

Other Jenny McKean Moore writers at GW have included Lucille Clifton, Marilyn Hacker, Susan Shreve, Amiri Baraka, Blanche Boyd, Carol Muske and Peter Meinke. The lectureship is named for a late playwriting student at GW who left a trust fund for the purpose of encouraging creative writing.



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MAILING DATE: June 15, 1983

CONTACT: David E. Taylor

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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WHICH WAY DO PUBLIC INTEREST LEADERS LEAN?

To the left—is the conclusion of a recent study of the public interest elite by George Washington University political science professor Robert Lichter and Smith College professor of government Stanley Rothman.

In their study of public interest elites, Lichter and Rothman profile the attitudes and backgrounds of leaders and senior staffers of 74 public interest groups (such as the American Civil Liberties Union, Common Cause, Congress Watch, the Environmental Defense Fund, and others). They found the leaders overwhelmingly were young, highly educated, well-paid professionals with secular and liberal outlooks and Democratic voting habits.

The elite believe that business, the media and the military wield the most power in America, but they would prefer a power shift to consumer groups, blacks, intellectuals and feminists. And while Ralph Nader and Edward Kennedy are among the most admired public figures, Ronald Reagan is close to bottom-below Fidel Castro.

#### On social and political attitudes, the study revealed:

- \* A majority believe the U.S. should move toward socialism.
- \* Ninety-four percent want the government to substantially redistribute income from the rich to the poor.

- \* Only 30 percent think private enterprise is fair to workers.
- \* Ninety-five percent are pro-choice on abortion.
- \* Only 12 percent think homosexuality is wrong.

#### On personal backgrounds, the study revealed:

- \* Sixty percent come from the Northeast corridor.
- \* Fifty-eight percent had family incomes above \$50,000 last year.
- \* Forty-seven percent were raised Jewish, but 41 percent currently claim no religious affiliation.
- \* Over 90 percent usually vote Democratic. Only 2 percent voted for Reagan.

Lichter and Rothman conclude that "the liberalism of public interest leaders shades into profound dissatisfaction with the American social and economic order." In their quest to represent the public interest, the authors found these leaders often deviate from the general public's outlook.

The findings are based on 157 interviews with leaders and senior staff members of public interest organizations and partners in public interest law firms. The study is featured in a current issue of Public Opinion magazine.



MAILING DATE: JUNE 17, 1983

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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GW NATIONAL LAW CENTER GIVEN \$250,000 FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT FELLOWSHIPS BY NEW YORK ATTORNEY JACOB BURNS

WASHINGTON, D.C.--GW alumnus and honorary trustee Jacob Burns (LL.B. With Distinction, 1924; LL.D. 1970), a New York attorney specializing in corporation law, has given The George Washington University National Law Center \$250,000 to provide for an annual award of \$5,000 each to the five highest achieving applicants to the school. According to GW President Lloyd Elliott, "The fellowships will be awarded to the highest achievers, the most qualified on the basis of academic excellence, those with the greatest promise among all applicants without regard to financial need."

Burns, for whom the fellowships are named, was elected to the GW board of trustees in March 1971 and served through 1977, at which time he became an honorary trustee. A member of the bar in the District of Columbia and in the State of New York, Burns has been a long-time benefactor of GW. He is (more)

responsible for the Jacob Burns Law Library, opened in 1967, and the university's H.B. Burns Memorial Building (University Clinic) is named in honor of his brother. A painter since his student days at Washington's Central High School, Burns studied in New York with English portrait painter Gerald Brockhurst. Some of his paintings, portraits of eminent New York jurists and of children, hang in Washington and New York, including the Columbia University Law School.

Burns received the Distinguished Alumnus Award of the George Washington Law Association (1975) and the GW Alumni Achievement Award (1983). He has been a member of the board of directors of the New York County Lawyers' Association, having chaired several of its committees; a member of the board of the USV Pharmaceutical Corporation; and a director of Revlon, Inc.

In announcing the fellowships at a June 14 luncheon meeting of the GW Law Association, President Elliott said that Dr. Burns was making the gift in honor of Vice President for Development Seymour Alpert, the honored guest at the luncheon, who will retire June 30.



#### News Release GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Office of Public Relations/Washington, D.C. 20052/(202) 676-6460

MAILING DATE: June 20, 1983

CONTACT: David E. Taylor

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RELEASE DATE: June 20, a.m.

TO WHOM DOES CONGRESS TURN FOR NEWS?

Among the country's major media, what's the main source of news on Capitol Hill?

According to a recent survey conducted at The George Washington University and published in the July Washington Journalism Review, The Washington Post is the undisputed news king on Capitol Hill. House members and senators are four times as dependent on the Post for news as they are on the next most important source while senior staff are even more reliant on the Post.

This spring, researchers from the GW Media Analysis
Project randomly sampled staff working most closely with
senators and House members--administrative assistants, press
secretaries, and senior legislative assistants--and asked
them to comment on their own news sources, the news habits
of their bosses, and to comment in general on the power and
influence of the Washington press corps.

The GW Media Analysis Project found:

\*The Post gets almost two and one-half times the 'attention as its closest rival among daily sources. Staffers average over 31 minutes per day reading the Post, followed by the "CBS Evening News" (13 minutes), the New York Times (12) and the Wall Street Journal (11).

- \*Among weekly news sources, CBS's "60 Minutes" captures the most attention, with 32 minutes per week, followed by "Agronsky & Company" (17) and U.S. News & World Report (15).
- \*As for dependency on one source, over 60 percent of the staffers cited the Post as the main source of news and political information among all possible sources. Nine percent listed the New York Times, three percent the Wall Street Journal, and 27 percent all other. According to senior staff, 55 percent of the senators and House members rely on the Post as the main source of news.
- \*Among staffers, George Will is the most highly regarded journalist, followed by David Broder. The least liked are Jack Anderson and Sam Donaldson.

Michael Robinson, director of the GW survey and associate professor at Catholic University, thinks the biggest surprise is the "clear dominance of newspapers over television as the source of news in Congress, while the country increasingly relies on the evening news broadcasts for its political information. The policy makers on the Hill still heavily depend on print."

Maura Clancey, assistant director of the survey, thinks another surprise is the diminished importance of the New York Times as the main news source for policy makers.

According to Clancey, House members and senators are six times more likely to rely on the Post than the Times.

Robinson and Clancey also conclude the alleged hostility between press and Congress is overstated. Only eight percent of the sample expressed clear hostility or resentment against the media, while six percent felt the national press was dishonest.

Page 3 of 3

The researchers said that staffers claim to spend an average of two and one-half hours per day watching, reading, or listening to the national news media. Even if this figure is inflated, the research shows that daily print media dominates daily broadcast while the Post dominates everthing--print and broadcast.

"Washington is anything but a one newspaper town,"
Robinson said, but regardless, "Congress has established something close to a self-imposed news monopoly. Having a politician's ear is very different from having his heart—but the Post is very much in control of what these people define as news."



### News Release GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Office of Public Relations/Washington, D.C. 20052/(202) 676-6460

MAILING DATE: June 21, 1983

CONTACT: David E. Taylor

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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GW RECEIVES PART OF IBM'S LARGEST
SINGLE PROGRAM EDUCATIONAL DONATION

The George Washington University School of Engineering and Applied Science is receiving \$2 million in computer equipment and software from IBM as part of the largest single program educational donation in the company's history, GW President Lloyd H. Elliott announced today (June 21).

George Washington is the only university in the Washington, D.C. area receiving the IBM donation.

In naming GW as one of the 20 universities receiving the computer equipment and software, IBM Chairman John R. Opel said, "this program will result in new and exciting university projects in many areas. Those we selected to receive the systems are truly outstanding."

The equipment includes an IBM 4341 processor with 16 million characters of main storage, IBM direct access storage devices, IBM graphics terminals and software packages. The CAD/CAM (Computer Aided Design/Computer Aided Manufacturing) computer system will be used to support existing programs in computer aided design and computer graphics, to assist the proposed new graduate program in manufacturing engineering, and to enhance other university programs.

"This will give the School of Engineering capabilities for classroom instruction and research that very few other universities in the nation have," said Dean Harold Liebowitz of GW's School of Engineering and Applied Science. "It gives us a new dimension in our quest for excellence in engineering education and research while placing GW in select company among other top universities."

The 20 universities receiving the equipment were chosen from 115 that submitted proposals responding to IBM's announcement last fall of a \$50 million cash and equipment grant program to help universities update their manufacturing engineering curricula. More than 75 universities submitting proposals were evaluated and from these the 20 recipients were chosen.

The IBM 4341 processor system and CAD/CAM system will enable students to learn first-hand about leading edge applications designed to improve industrial productivity. The system will support a number of areas in computer assisted design and manufacturing, including machine and mechanism design, mobile robot control systems, finite-element modeling of non-linear systems, reliability theory, quality control and others.

In CAD/CAM operations, a product design, ranging from a simple gear to a complex spacecraft, can be generated on a graphics display terminal. Geometric information about the design can be used by the machine tools that fabricate and assemble the product, allowing the manufacturer to operate with high productivity and cost efficiency.

"We are on the threshold of a new era in manufacturing technology and there is a critical need in industry for people who can make full use of that technology and enhance it in years to come," IBM's Chairman Opel said. "There can be no factories of the future unless there are universities of the future educating those people now."

Commenting on the importance of IBM's program and the need to upgrade the design and manufacturing base of the U.S. economy, Dean Liebowitz pointed to two comparisons with Japan: (1) the projected deficit of \$23.7 billion in the balance of trade with Japan, and (2) a three-to-one advantage in robot utilization by Japan, with approximately 60 unmanned or semi-automated factories in Japan compared with only a handful in the United States.

"These problems have been created by a low level of interest in manfucturing engineering by industry and educational institutions and by a general population that often has shown apathy or even hostility toward new applications of computers and robots," he said. "A significant part of the burden for changing the attitudes of the general public toward computers and robotics must be assumed by public and private institutions of higher education."

GW President Elliott added that "computer aided design and manufacturing and robotics deserve more attention in engineering curricula in the years ahead. And at GW, we taking steps in that direction.



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MAILING DATE: June 22, 1983

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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RICHARD W. LONGSTRETH NAMED DIRECTOR

OF GW GRADUATE PROGRAM IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Architectural historian Richard W. Longstreth has been named director of The George Washington University Graduate Program in Historic Preservation. Longstreth begins as director in the fall semester, 1983, succeeding Frederick Gutheim, who will continue to teach courses, including a seminar on international historic preservation. The program provides a master's level concentration to degree candidates in the Departments of Urban and Regional Planning and History and the American Studies Program.

Longstreth has been a frequent commentator on preservation issues. His most recent publications include a contribution to the National Trust for Historic Preservation's forthcoming "Main Street" study; a study of major California architects, On the Edge of the World: Four Architects in San Francisco at the Turn of the Century, to be published later this year by the Architectural History Foundation and M.I.T. Press. He is co-author, with Edward Teitelman, of Architecture in Philadelphia: A Guide. His articles have appeared in the Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, Perspecta, and Winterthur Portfolio.

Longstreth chairs the Society of Architectural Historians' Committee on Preservation and has served on the Society's board of directors, as well as on that of Preservation Action. A member of the National Council for Preservation Education, he has taught at the College of Architecture and Design at Kansas State University since 1976. He received a Ph.D. in architectural history from the University of California at Berkeley in 1977.

Initiated in 1975, the program now has approximately 30 students who combine preservation-related courses with work toward regular graduate degrees in the three participating departments.

For further information call Professor Dorn McGrath at (202) 676-7475.



MAILING DATE: June 24, 1983

CONTACT: David E. Taylor

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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### BOOK EXHIBIT ON HUMOR ON DISPLAY AT GW'S GELMAN LIBRARY

An exhibit of books on humor from A to B (Aristophanes to Buchwald), C to B (Chaucer to Beerbohm), H to G (Homer to Getlein) and C to c (Confucius to cummings), are on display July 1 through July 30 in the first floor lobby of the Gelman Library at The George Washington University.

The library is located at 2130 H Street, NW.

The exhibit highlights humor in literature from past to present, with examples of works beginning with the ancient Greeks. Included are anthologies, commentaries and parodies by the great and near-great.

The exhibit is free of charge and the public is invited.

A panel discussion will also be held from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday,
July 17, featuring Frank Getlein, theatre critic and author of "Bite
of the Print," a book about caricature; Gail Paster, associate professor
of English at GW; and Alan Wade, associate professor and chairman of
communication and theatre at GW. For more information on the panel
discussion, call 484-4949.

The library hours are 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday through Thursday;

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday; 12 noon to 6 p.m. Saturday; and 12 noon to 10 p.m. Sunday.

The exhibit and panel are sponsored by the Workshop Library on World Humour and The George Washington University Gelman Library. The Workshop Library on World Humour is a non-profit organization devoted to exploring the use of humor from early societies to the present. Their scope includes drawing, painting, sculpture, literature, mime, dance, music, physical and behavioral science and the art of communication.



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